

LIBERTY PLEDGE

NEWSLETTER

Libertarian National Committee, Inc. ♦ 2600 Virginia Ave, NW, Suite 200 ♦ Washington, DC 20037 ♦ Phone: (202) 333-0008 ♦ Fax: (202) 333-0072
 www.LP.org July 2010

Positive Stats to Report

*By Wes Benedict
 Executive Director
 Libertarian National Committee*

Libertarians throughout America have stepped up to challenge Republicans and Democrats this November. I'm especially pleased to see that our list of candidates has grown far beyond that of 2006 and 2008. Here's a chart with data as of July 9:

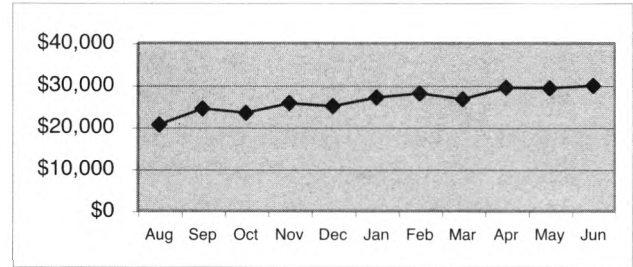
Candidates	2006	2008	2010
U.S. Senator	18	15	22
US Representative	114	127	174
State Legislatures	272	279	343
Other	192	172	255
Total Candidates*	596	593	794

** Mostly November candidates, but may include a small number of candidates in non-November elections. Both partisan and non-partisan.*

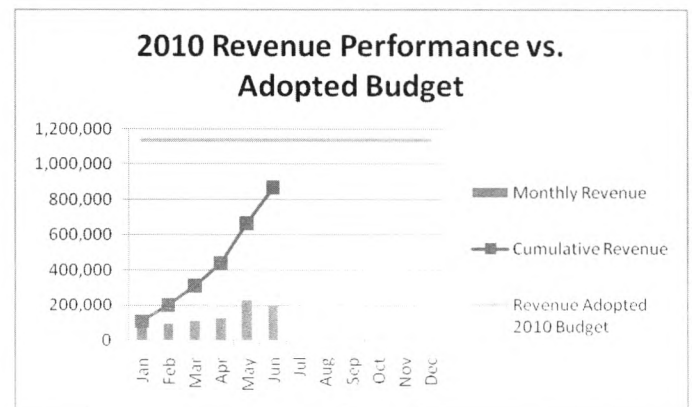
(Please note, we've received more updates since then, and our total 2010 candidate count is now over 800.)

I'm additionally pleased that our state party affiliates worked hard to assist with getting these candidates' paperwork filed so that most of them will appear on the ballot. One of the challenges of running for office is filling out all of the required paperwork and complying with the campaign finance laws. I'm certain our candidates would have liked a lot more assistance and we will work on improving our service to them, however, overall, I'm pleased with our progress.

Our monthly pledge program continues growing and surpassed \$29,000 again in June. Here's a graph of the pledge total since last August (2009):



Not only is our monthly pledge program going well, but overall our fundraising has been strong this year. The monthly pledges have been an important part of that. But we also had a great turnout for our 2010 National Convention, and people have responded supportively to our other fundraising efforts. We're running ahead of our original budgeted revenue for the year.



This strong revenue performance has allowed us to put more money into several areas. I expect to get more help with membership renewal outreach, and I also expect to purchase more LP promotional materials, and to slightly increase the frequency of LP News issues. These are all promising steps forward.

Thanks again for your continued support for the LP.

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

Where Do Libertarians Come From?

from the Ohio LP, June 18

PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS SHOW LIBERTARIANS DO PULL REPUBLICAN VOTERS, AND DEMOCRATIC VOTERS, AND INDEPENDENTS

Analysis that has been done on this year's Franklin County, Ohio primary election results shows a trend that isn't surprising to the vast majority of Libertarians, but might be interesting to anyone who thinks Libertarian candidates hurt Republican candidates by pulling Republican voters: they pull Democratic voters at about the same rate.

After analyzing data from the Franklin County Board of Elections, which includes the capital of Columbus, it was found that 22% of this year's Libertarian voters had voted Republican in the 2008 Primary, while 27% had voted Democrat. 41% didn't even vote in the 2008 primary.

To take the analysis one step further, voting patterns since 2000 were included to measure the true trend of Republican and Democratic voters. With that information, it was found that 34% of Libertarian voters in 2010 had a pattern of voting Republican since 2000, and 25% had a Democratic trend.

While it is commonplace to claim that voting for Libertarian Party candidates will hurt one of the major party candidates, the truth of the numbers is that it is the voters, and not the parties, who will have the final say. "This is statistical proof that reinforces what Libertarians have anecdotally noted for many years. The principles of small Constitutional government, lower taxes and more personal freedom transcend traditional political descriptors," said Charlie Earl, Libertarian candidate for Ohio Secretary of State.

Additional analysis will also be conducted on the statewide results once they are made available.

Governor, Give It Back!

from the Virginia LP, June 18

The Libertarian Party of Virginia today condemned the proposal from Virginia's Republican Governor, Bob McDonnell, to withhold the Commonwealth's budget surplus from taxpayers. "The state has taken more money from its citizens than it required to satisfy its explosive budget," said Bill Wood, Chairman of the Libertarian Party of Virginia. "But instead of giving the money back to the rightful owners --the taxpayers -- the Governor is proposing to reward the state's government by feeding the surplus money into Virginia's ever-growing bureaucracy."

According to Virginia Statehouse News, Governor McDonnell proposes giving most of the surplus, \$82.2 million out of an estimated \$140 million, as a one-time 3% bonus to state employees.

"With the Commonwealth's private sector suffering and 43 counties in Virginia reporting unemployment rates over 10% (this according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics), we Libertarians want to see the surplus returned to the Virginians, especially those in the wealth-producing private sector, to whom it rightfully belongs," said Wood. "The government doesn't create wealth; it only confiscates it and then wastes it," said Wood. "With unemployment so high in the Commonwealth, it is a slap in the face for a governor from the so-called 'fiscally-responsible' party to keep taxpayer money away from those who actually earned it. We Libertarians say, 'Give it Back!'"

The fiscal year for the Commonwealth's government ends June 30th, at which time state officials will decide what to do with the budget surplus.

Candidate polling at 10%, releases video

from the Irvine for Congress campaign, July 12

Libertarian Party: On the Trail

The Congressional campaign of Libertarian candidate Travis Irvine, an independent filmmaker/journalist of Bexley and a former Bexley Mayoral Candidate, was pleased to learn from a National Journal article last week that the Libertarian campaign is polling at 5-10% in a Congressional race that is anticipated by pundits to be closely contested.

Irvine said after learning of the poll that this shows a growing number of American people are getting tired of having to choose between Democrats and Republicans, and are hungry for candidates that represent true change in Washington.

“More and more people are realizing that voting for the Democrats and Republicans just keeps entrenched special interests controlling Washington,” Irvine said. “Our movement is growing to promote individual liberty and financial responsibility, not kickbacks and favors for favors at the expense of the taxpayer.”

The campaign has also released a new web video, entitled “Spending Out of Control”, which features television personality and government grant guru, Matthew Lesko, and highlights how both Democrats and Republicans have been spending out-of-control for the past ten years.

Unlike Senator John McCain, who used Lesko’s image in a recent ad against his primary opponent, Irvine actually sought and gained Lesko’s permission to appear in the web video.

New and renewing Liberty Pledgers

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Kristopher Ames | Jennifer L. Meyer |
| Joseph Baus | Edward Morgan |
| Ruth E. Bennett | Bruce A. Parisi |
| John P. Blair | Kimberlee Parker |
| Warren Bowman | Joseph H. Perry |
| Richard Burke | Michele R. Poague |
| Matthew Butler | David S. Reed |
| Jo R. Coleman | Peter Rego |
| J.D. Crownover | Julie H. Sabri |
| Mark V. Deal | Dominic Saltarelli |
| Brian E. Defferding | Edward Sanville |
| David Eckhardt | Diane Sawyer |
| Gregory M. Fahy | Brian Schmidt |
| Robert Gionet | Brent Shaw |
| Darrell Goldman | Christopher M. Smith |
| James Graves | David Stamper |
| Candy L. Harris | Jay S. Steinmetz |
| Ed Hiserodt | Clifford Thompson |
| Thomas L. Howe | William Tomasek |
| Robert Jacobs | Catherine G. Tripp |
| Gary E. Johnson | Deborah Vaccaro |
| Scott Kinnaird | Nikolas E. Varrone |
| Scott D. Knowles | Gene Warren |
| Jon M. Kueny | Robin Wertheimer |
| Daniel F. Maddox | Matthew White |
| Christopher R. Maden | Matthew L. Whitlock |
| Sheldon W. McGraw | Lily Williams |
| William Mcvay | Bernhard Wolf |
| David G. Meadows | |

I would like to make a one-time donation to the LP:

- \$5,000 \$100
 \$1,000 \$50
 \$500 \$25
 \$250
- _____ Other

I would like to increase my monthly pledge to this level:

- \$2,500 \$100
 \$1,000 \$50
 \$500 \$30
 \$250
- _____ Other
(minimum \$10)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

(Please make checks payable to **Libertarian Party**.)

Please bill my Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Card number: _____ Exp: _____

Name on card: _____

Signature: _____

Occupation*: _____

Employer*: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work: _____ Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

* Federal law requires us to use our best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year. Political contributions are not tax deductible.

Libertarian Party in the News

A Florida first: A Libertarian Party primary

Orland Sentinel, June 17, 2010

Voters in Orange, Seminole and Volusia counties will see something on their Aug. 24 primary ballot that's never before been seen in Florida, according to the Secretary of State's office: a primary contest between two third-party candidates.

Libertarian Party members **Ellen Paul** and **Franklin Perez** have both qualified to run for the 33rd District seat in the Florida House, the seat that's been held for the past eight years by Republican Sandy Adams. She's term-limited and is running for the GOP nomination to face U.S. Rep. Suzanne Kosmas, D-New Smyrna Beach.

'Regular Joe' jumps into 14th Dist. race

Daily Herald (Chicago), June 21, 2010

SPRINGFIELD - The Libertarian candidate challenging U.S. Rep. Bill Foster filed paperwork Monday to get on the November ballot, and said health care still is the most important issue to voters in his suburban district.

Libertarian Candidate **Doug Marks** of Carpentersville filed more than 16,000 signatures Monday in order to become a viable third-party candidate. If the state elections board approves those signatures, Marks will face incumbent Democrat Bill Foster of Geneva and Republican State Sen. Randy Hultgren of Winfield Township in the general election.

Marks, who telecommutes working for a software firm based in Washington, D.C., described himself as a "regular Joe" whose ultimate goal is to reduce big government.

Senate Candidates Meet For First Forum

MyNC (North Carolina), June 26, 2010

The battle for Senate started Saturday as the candidates tackled the issues during their first forum in Wilmington.

Among the candidates are incumbent Republican Richard Burr, Democratic challenger and Secretary of State Elaine Marshall and Libertarian party nominee, **Michael Beitler**....

Oil was a topic of contention....

"I agree with Secretary Marshall that big oil in bed with big government is a big problem and my concern is anger and knee jerk reactions are not leadership," said Beitler.

Libertarians qualify 12 candidates for November ballot

Atlanta Journal-Constitution, June 29, 2010

The Libertarian Party of Georgia on Tuesday officially entered the 2010 campaign season when party leaders placed a dozen candidates on the November ballot....

"Today is a historic occasion for the state of Georgia, as well as the Libertarian Party of Georgia," said **Daniel Adams**, chairman of Libertarian Party of Georgia. "We just qualified our first full statewide slate, including the first African-American candidate for governor and the first female candidate for lieutenant governor on the general election ballot."...

"When elected chairman, I promised to deliver to Georgia a real choice on election day and I believe today that was accomplished," Adams said.